GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:430
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008
EMPOWERING MENTALLY CHALLENGED PERSONS
Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise date and percentage of mentally retarded population in India; and

(b) the steps the Government proposes to take persons so as to empower them?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

(a) According to the Census 2001, there are 2.19 crore persons with disabilities in India who constitute 2.13 percent of the total population. The mentally retarded persons are 22.64 lakhs and constitute approximately 0.23% of the total population in the country. The Statewise details are enclosed.

(b) The physical, social and psychological empowerment of persons with disabilities is promoted through Deendayal Disabled rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) and Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of aids/Appliances (ADIP) Scheme. The seven National Institutes also take up programmes for empowerment of persons with disabilities through their outreach programmes. Government has been promoting the self- employment of persons with disabilities by providing vocational training and loan on concessional rates through National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC).